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but advanced directly from the form of the *Anodonta* to that of the *Ostrea*, leaving the young beaks directly on the edge of the valves. Mr. Lea thought that the difference of length of the stem, or the absence of it in various specimens arose from the fact of the young individual finding sooner or later something solid to commence the soldering of the under valve to, and then to spread out the area of the valve.

On motion, so much of the communication of the Baron Von Müller as relates to the establishment of a Zoological Garden in this city was referred to the following Committee: Mr. Ord, Mr. Vaux and Dr. Bridges.

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*January 17th.*

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

A letter was read from Capt. John H. Ritchie, U. S. N., dated Philadelphia, Jan. 10th, 1854, accompanying the donations to the Museum acknowledged at last meeting.

Also a letter from J. Pemberton Hutchinson, Esq., dated Philadelphia, Jan. 16th, 1854, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Member.

Mr. Conrad presented for publication in the Journal, a Synopsis of the Genera *Parapholas* and *Penicilla*; which was referred to Dr. Ruschenberger, Dr. Le Conte and Dr. J. A. Meigs.

Mr. Lea exhibited a large and beautiful crystal of limpid quartz, cut into facets, which he had obtained in Italy.

On leave granted, the Committee, to which was referred Baron Müller's communication relative to the establishment of a Zoological Garden in this city, presented a report adverse to the same, the Committee being firmly impressed with the opinion that the project would not succeed, from "the difficulty of procuring a suitable locality, of convenient access, within the city or its precincts; the great amount of capital required in the outset of the undertaking, and the precarious nature of the tenure, in this country, of all that depends upon popular favor."

The Report was adopted, and a copy directed to be transmitted to Baron Müller.

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*January 14th.*

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Major Le Conte presented a paper, for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Notice of American Animals formerly known, but now forgotten or lost." Referred to Mr. Cassin, Dr. Ruschenberger and Dr. Henderson.

On leave granted, Mr. Foulke, after stating that it was probable the U. S. Government would fit out shortly an Expedition for the exploration of Africa, suggested the appointment of a Committee to urge upon the Government the propriety of having Naturalists attached to the Expedition. Whereupon on motion the following was adopted:

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five members be appointed, whose duty